

**FROM THE
GROUND UP:**

**City of Hammond, IN
LEGAL AID CLINIC**

is where one Puma forges
ahead in the fight
to make heard the voices
of the downtrodden.
Full story on page 10.



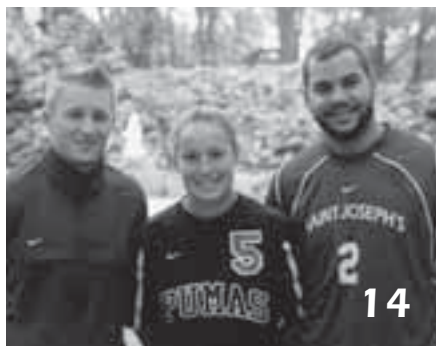
KRIS COSTA SAKELARIS '82

Contact

Magazine for the Alumni, Parents & Friends of Saint Joseph's College

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Contact

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See *Contact* on the Web at
www.contact.saintjoe.edu

Saint Joseph's College is...

"....a primarily undergraduate Catholic college, founded and sponsored by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, [which] pledges itself to a tradition of excellence and to a liberal education that is a united endeavor of intelligence and faith."

— *excerpted from the College
mission statement*

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It's always giving time

WITH THE RECENT CHRISTMAS season, I noted that the daily "mail call" at our home included fewer of the traditional greeting cards wishing us a "Blessed and Joyful Christmas."

However, I did note another annual increase in the "begging letters"; the ones that ask, solicit, cajole, and otherwise make you feel like a Scrooge if you don't support their causes with a check. If you aren't on some charity's mailing list, then you must be dead. In some cases, being dead isn't good enough; the begging letters keep on coming, anyway.

And, in most instances, we just throw them in the trash without even reading their messages. Fine Christians we are!

The best advice I've heard to deal with sorting out the many heart-wrenching appeals that end up in our mailboxes is to make an annual budget of how much you or your family will give in the coming year, and then stick to it. Give to whatever causes you wish to support, and feel good about it. When the money runs out, stop giving and continue to feel good about those causes you have been able to support.

Of course, one can contribute in ways other than by writing a check. That's the theme of this issue of *Contact*: "Giving Our Time, Talent, and Treasure."

Think of the time given to you each day that you awaken and put your feet on the floor. Think of the many talents with which you have been blessed. Think, too, of the blending of your time and talents, which earns you the treasure that feeds, houses, clothes, and educates your family.

Who do we thank for our days when we awaken and enjoy good health? Who deserves our gratitude for the talents we have that allow us to be good parents, spouses, co-workers, or volunteers? Just as important, how do we share our gifts with others? What are our personal "budgets" of what we will give and feel good about afterwards?

The Gospel of Luke reminds us that, "Of those to whom much has been given, much is expected." It sounds like more than just a Christmas begging letter to me.



A handwritten signature of Stephen M. Ligda in dark ink.

Stephen M. Ligda '62
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Massoels' marketing research class presents findings to Herff Jones, Inc.



MAKING CONNECTIONS: The collaboration between SJC and Herff Jones, Inc. was made possible by Herff Jones employee **Bob Sheridan '94**. Back row, left to right: Mike Cocot '06, Candace Northam '06, John Simon '07, Massoels, John Grigorakis '07, Matt Comparato '06, Erin Salinas '07, Sheridan. Front row, left to right: Melissa Melinauskas '06, John Maniaci '07.

The 2006 SJC CareerFest: Call to SJC Alumni

SJC alumni are invited to participate in the 2006 SJC CareerFest to be held on campus on **Monday, March 27, 2006**. If you have an interest in recruiting current SJC students for internships or full-time employment with your company or organization or simply would like to provide our current students with information on employment opportunities in your field, consider coming back to campus for this annual event. Employer registration fees are waived for all recruiting SJC alumni.

Please contact Adam Malson, Director of SJC's Career Development Center, at (219) 866-6188 or amalson@saintjoe.edu to register for this event. For more information on the 2006 SJC CareerFest, please visit www.saintjoe.edu/careers.

On November 30, eight students in Associate Professor of Marketing and Management **Teresa Massoels '89's** Marketing Research class presented to Herff Jones, Inc. the findings of their research concerning why less college students are purchasing class rings. Nine Herff Jones employees, including the Director of Marketing, sat in on the presentation at the Herff Jones, Inc. headquarters in Indianapolis.

The collaboration between Massoels' class and Herff Jones arose when Herff Jones employee **Bob Sheridan '94** contacted Massoels after hearing about the work her previous marketing classes had done for businesses like American Institute of Toxicology Laboratories in the past. Massoels invited Sheridan to speak to her class, and when he visited in September, he discussed some of the problems Herff Jones had been facing and asked the class to research the matter

further. "The class took the information, did secondary research, and conducted their own primary research," Massoels said. "They also conducted a student survey on campus in which over three hundred students participated, as well as a phone survey with SJC parents, in which eighty parents participated. The final research was a focus group that included eight SJC students."

Once they had collected their data, the students began analyzing the information they had compiled. "The students put together a report and presentation, and then drove to the Herff Jones headquarters in Indianapolis to present them," Massoels said. "After the presentation, the students were asked many questions and actually became part of a focus group for Herff Jones."

Massoels was pleased with the work of her students, as well as how beneficial the opportunity will be for her students in building their skills and applying their learning in real situations. "This type of experience is great for these students because the class was able to take everything they have learned from the book and put it into a real life project," she said. "The students commented on how great this will be to have on their resumes, and when some of them participated in the Indianapolis Business Network evening that took place November 9, many alumni were very interested and impressed with the work they were doing for this project."

Massoels, however, was not the only one impressed by the work and research completed and conducted by her students. "Herff Jones, Inc. was very pleased with the work the students had conducted and wish to keep connected with my business classes," Massoels said. Future projects may include further research projects along with a possible advertising project.



MAKING CONNECTIONS: Senior Social Work major Rachel Koopman, president of the Social Work and Criminal Justice Clubs, at the Public Interest and Community Service Career Fair.

SJC attends third annual public interest, community service fair

In early November, six SJC students attended the Public Interest and Community Service Career Fair at the downtown campus of Ivy Tech State College in Indianapolis. The SJC Social Work Club, Criminal Justice Club, and Career Development Center sponsored the trip for students to take advantage of the opportunity to network with over 40 non-profit organizations recruiting

for internships, part- and full-time jobs, and graduate programs.

"As a member of the Indiana College Career Center Consortium, SJC's Career Development Center was invited to participate in this year's fair," said SJC Director of Career Development Adam Malson. "We assisted in bringing several not-for-profit employers to the fair and helped out with some

staying involved | ALUMNI

of the administrative duties associated with hosting a large career event." Other Indiana colleges and universities that participated include: Earlham College, Hanover College, Butler University, DePauw University, Taylor University, Wabash College, and the University of Indianapolis.

Malson believes that students who attend these kinds of career fairs are exposed to a different experience than that of the average career fair. "Most college career fairs focus on job and internship opportunities with companies, corporations, or small businesses," he said. "The Consortium's Public Interest and Community Service Fair is one of only a handful of career fairs in the state that focus specifically on internships and employment with non-profit and faith-based organizations."

Senior Social Work major Rachel Koopman, president of the Social Work and Criminal Justice Clubs, helped generate student interest on campus and attended the fair herself. "I feel it was beneficial because it gave us the ability to network," Koopman said. "We all picked up a lot of useful information from this career fair that will be helpful in the future: it gave us insight into what kinds of different jobs are out there for people who want to help others."



Over 2,000 Pumas can't be wrong!

Since the launch of our new Alumni Web site, *Connections*, we have registered more than 2,000 alumni, posted dozens of news releases, and sent monthly E-newsletters about alumni and campus happenings. Our honor classes for 2005 enjoyed the ease of planning their reunions through e-mail and viewing post-reunion pictures on their class homepages. Register now to enjoy the many features this secure Web site has to offer:

- Password protected E-directory • Class homepages
- Self-maintained personal page • On-line shopping at the College Store
- Class and event photo albums • Buddy lists and instant messenger
- On-line event registration • Secure on-line giving • Class Note submissions
- Calendar of events

Go to alumni.saintjoe.edu and get *Connections!*

Dr. Andy Evens '91

Eleven years after graduating from Saint Joseph's College, **Dr. Andy Evens '91** got his first job. Now the Associate Director of the Hematology/Oncology Training Program and an attending physician on faculty at Chicago's Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center, Evens has finally arrived at his goal, but it certainly was a long way in getting there.

As the self-proclaimed "shy kid" throughout most of his youth, Evens never imagined he'd follow in the medicinal footsteps of his parents – both employed in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, his father even teaching pharmacy classes at various institutions around the country. "I used to intern in the summertime at an immunology lab," he said. "I liked it a lot, but I never thought I could be a doctor because I was so shy. I didn't like being in front of a crowd or being the center of attention."

It was his time at SJC, however, that ultimately turned his personality around. "There were so many presentations and discussions in the Core Program that I couldn't really stay the 'shy kid' for too long. I enrolled with a pre-med curriculum and had a scholarship to play basketball, and before I knew it, I had come out of my shell," he said.

After graduating from SJC, Evens moved to California to begin working on his Ph.D. in Biochemistry and learned that he enjoyed talking with patients more than experimenting in the lab. His discovery led him to reconsider his choice, and he returned to the Midwest to attend medical school at the Chicago College



"There were so many presentations and discussions in the Core Program that I couldn't really stay the 'shy kid' for too long."



of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his residency – and ultimately became Chief Resident – at Chicago's Lutheran General Hospital before being chosen for a fellowship at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. While there, he sub-specialized in the fields of hematology and oncology. After the 3-year fellowship, he stayed on faculty at the university.

After officially completing his training, Evens had a choice to make: would he continue in academics or go to private practice? "I chose to remain in academics because I found I really love teaching as well as doing research," he recalled. "I work with Hematology/Oncology fellows-in-training, residents, and medical students to help provide hematology and oncology training."

Working in academic medicine at Northwestern University has paved the way for Evens to begin studying the disease entities lymphoma and sarcoma, with particular interest in Hodgkin's disease and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. "We perform translational laboratory research and clinical trials, hoping to find new and better treatments for the cancers," he said. "I recently received a \$700,000 research K23 grant in lymphoma from the National Institute of Health/National Cancer Institutes which will help support my lab work and clinical research for the next five years."

"A good amount of science is books and facts, but so much of medicine is an art," he said. "I enjoy research and spending time in the lab, but I love having the opportunity to teach others to become better physicians."

REV. RALPH VERDI, C.P.P.S. '68 ... *Where is he now?*

Rev. Ralph Verdi, C.P.P.S. '68 came to Saint Joseph's College from New York City in 1962 and has been affiliated with the College ever since. After earning his bachelor's in Music, he returned in 1974 and began teaching classes in Music and Core, as well as giving piano lessons, teaching in the Summer Program of Church Music and Liturgy, and chairing the Faculty Fine Arts Committee.

After spending thirty-one years employed at his alma mater, Verdi retired in 2005 and began the next journey in his life: parish ministry. Instead of busy-ing himself with lecturing, leading Core discussions, and giving music lessons, he has plenty of new responsibilities as the Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Cleveland, Ohio. He regularly hears confessions and presides over Sunday Masses, weekday liturgies, funerals, nursing home ministries, and various types of counseling.

"I miss everyone at Saint Joseph's," Verdi began, "but I don't miss the long,

afternoon meetings!" In his new life at OLCG, he now attends parish, diocesan, district, and other local meetings in place of SJC faculty meetings. "I've switched from one kind of meeting to another in parish life, and it's a welcome change for me," he said.

Continuing a tradition that began long before Verdi ever came to Saint Joseph's College, he hasn't let his relocation and new occupation stop him from composing and publishing music. "My musical talents aren't lying fallow," he said. "I'm still composing hymns for Precious Blood communities to help spread devotion." Last summer he composed "Many the Voices," the theme song for the Precious Blood Congress 2005, sponsored by the C.P.P.S. Leadership Conference. The hymn, well received by the community, will be published in a Conference prayer book.

"Many the Voices," however, is not the first of his pieces Verdi has seen in print form. After winning



Verdi '68 still keeps in touch with his friends from SJC and can be reached at rcvolgc@yahoo.com.

several composition contests in his youth, creating music has been his life-long passion. "Ralph has a great composition talent and has had many works published," said Dr. John Egan, SJC Professor of Music. "It's almost impossible to go to a Catholic church and pick up a hymnal without coming across at least one of his pieces."

Before I was a Puma & TODAY:



Sheehan in 1959

I was four-and-a-half years old when this picture was taken at Christmas at my grandparents Arnzen's home in 1959. As a child, I loved to play house with my dolls and my four younger siblings. I took my role as the big sister very seriously, and I still do. I'm now the mother of four children, and, although I'm definitely not the domestic goddess I pretended to be as a child, we are doing just great.

What you're doing now: I work from home for DMC Consulting, a local computer company owned by Hewlett-Packard. My husband Patrick and I live in Toledo, Ohio, with our four children: Troy, Lauren, Aaron, and Allison. In addition to play-

ing chauffeur to my children, I'm very active in our church, where I teach Sunday school, facilitate Bible studies, play in the bell choir, and act as the "local daughter" for lots of senior citizens who just want some company. I'm very close friends with **Bishop Albert Ottenweller '36**, as well as many other Pumas.



Elaine (Arnzen) Sheehan '77

High school, city, state:

Delphos St. John's High School
Delphos, Ohio

Degree: Bachelor of Arts, French

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1

Ash Wednesday

March 4 – 12

Spring Break

March 11

Saint Patrick's Day
Parade - Chicago

March 18

Puma Preview Day

March 27

CareerFest

April 1

Accepted Students Day

April 6-8

Spring Musical:
Into the Woods

ATTENTION ALUMNI!

If you graduated in a year ending with a "1" or "6"

Alumni celebrating an honor year reunion in 2006 will soon receive their Honor Class listing: a book listing the names and contact information for those who graduated in a specific class. If you do not want your name and contact information listed in this mailing, contact the Alumni Office at 800-227-1898 or e-mail alumni@saintjoe.edu.

Jendraszak '07 to participate in Indiana State Senate Internship



Junior History and Political Science major Andrew Jendraszak recently accepted an internship for the 2006 winter semester with the Indiana State Senate Democratic Caucus. The Senate Democrats hire fourteen interns who serve as staff members in the caucus. This will be the third year in a row in which Saint Joseph's College has been represented by a student in the program.

"I wanted to get more experience in politics, so I decided to apply for the internship," Jendraszak said. "I had already worked for Sagamore Institute for Policy Research, a policy think-tank in Indianapolis, which gave me some experience in a non-governmental side of political work, and wanted to experience political science from within the government itself."

After deciding to apply, Jendraszak began the long and involved application process. "First I went through a general application process including a resume, writing samples, and personal essay," he explained. "From those applications, a small group was chosen to be interviewed by the director of the internship program. The interview consisted of a verbal portion and a writing sample written at the Statehouse. After that phase, I received a phone call and letter confirming I had been chosen for the internship program."

As an intern within the state Senate, Jendraszak will work at the Statehouse in Indianapolis and his responsibilities will include staffing a Senator, attending committee meetings, and contacting constituents, among others. "I would eventually like to work in politics and think this internship, because of the knowledge and experience I will gain and connections I will make, will enhance my chances of finding an occupation in that field," Jendraszak said.

Adam Malson, Director of the Career Development Center at Saint Joseph's College, was responsible for making students on campus aware of the internship and assisting them in navigating the application process. "I'm thrilled that Andrew is representing SJC in this year's internship class," he said. "I hope that SJC students will continue to participate in this program for years to come."

Gallagher Charitable Society brightens holidays for those in need

At a time of year when the average college student's impending holiday break is plagued with study sessions, presentations, and finals, the students at Saint Joseph's College are busy ensuring that those less fortunate have a happier holiday. Gallagher Charitable Society, a volunteer organization that aims to foster a caring relationship between the College community and city of Rensselaer, hosted its annual Christmas party for underprivileged children and their families on December 3. Approximately 240 people were in attendance with nearly seventy-five volunteers from the College.

In the month of October, invitations were sent through the local school systems and families were asked to RSVP to the College. SJC volunteers were busy throughout the month of November collecting non-perishable food items to give to the families, as well as new presents, toothbrushes, hats, gloves, and gently used toys and books for children attending the party. Dressed as reindeer, elves, and Santa and Mrs. Claus, the volunteers spent the afternoon playing games with the children, coloring, making crafts, and visiting with Santa Claus.

To Josh Hinton, senior Economics major, volunteering with GCS gives him a way to feel welcome and accepted during the holiday season. "This is such a great event because it makes us [SJC students] feel like a part of the community, too. It extends the College into the Rensselaer community," he said.

Senior Biology-Chemistry major Heather Mikus, GCS president since



Marissa Klebs '05
as Mrs. Claus.

2003, believes that forming a bond between the College and the community is the purpose of such an event and the mission of Gallagher Charitable Society itself. "Once you see the looks on the kids' faces, it's worth it," she said. "To them, it's more than just a toy – it's the guarantee of a good Christmas."

Mikus, who began her involvement with GCS during her freshman year at SJC, asserts that "once you volunteer once, you'll want to come back every year." For students like senior Biology-Chemistry major and first-time GCS volunteer Rachel Jarrard, however, the option of "coming back" is limited. "This is a great event and I'm so happy that I decided to volunteer this year," she began, "but I wish I had gotten involved sooner. It's too great

a cause to wait until your senior year."

Luckily for Jarrard, though, this year's event proved that involvement can easily extend beyond your senior year, as exhibited by the volunteerism of two SJC alumni: **Stephen Kraemer '04** and **Eric Peschke '05**. Kraemer, who has been involved with GCS for six years, encourages other alumni to come back and help out. "There's a lot of work that goes into this event, so there are a lot of ways to help out. Alumni in the area can contribute their time at the actual event, but we need other contributions, too, like used toys and books, new presents, and monetary donations," he said.

Like Kraemer, volunteering with GCS is nothing new to SJC head baseball coach **Rick O'Dette '99**. "I started volunteering during my sophomore year at SJC, and after one year, you have to come back," he said. After his own experiences as a student, O'Dette now requires his baseball players to volunteer with GCS every year. "We sort food from the food drive, wrap presents, and help out at the party. It's a great event, and sometimes I think the players love it more than the kids do."

For Mikus, it all comes together in the end. For all the planning and organizing necessary to make such a large event come to fruition, "it's worth it if we brighten up even one kid's holiday," she said. "It will make your Christmas. It *is* Christmas."

Building from the GROUND UP

“Eventually, it all makes sense.” The words resonate throughout the walls of the City of Hammond Legal Aid Clinic, where one Puma forges ahead in the fight to make heard the voices of the downtrodden. **Kris Costa Sakelaris ’82**, now in her second year as the director of the clinic, is responsible for the creation and establishment of the new department directly under the city’s mayor, Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. Building the department from the ground up, Sakelaris and her staff helped 335 people find legal counsel and reassurance in their first year. But it was an eclectic journey that led her to this station in life.

After earning her bachelor’s degrees in Communication and Theatre Arts and Accounting, she went on to become the president of a food co-operative and then a real estate sales associate. Already no stranger to changing directions in her life, she then “went to law school on a whim” after overhearing some friends talking about the LSAT. “They begged me to take the test and go to law school with them – like this is something that girlfriends do together,” she laughed. “We all ended up taking the test, but I was the only one of the group to actually go to law school.”

Sakelaris couldn’t have known at that point in her life that her next three years at Valparaiso University School of Law would lead her to yet another handful of career changes, and finally one that ultimately would become her passion.

She, like many other students, worked her way through law school with a succession of jobs, including court administrator, probation officer, and law clerk before earning her Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1992 and opening a private practice in her hometown of



Kris Costa
Sakelaris '82

Hammond, Indiana. It wasn’t long before she was scaling Hammond’s judicial ladder to the heights of Commissioner and Magistrate of the Civil Division of Lake Superior Court. It was then that McDermott approached her with an idea.

“He wanted me to help him with this idea he had of developing the city’s first legal aid clinic. But at that point in time, I wasn’t even sure that I wanted to continue with law at all, so I turned him down. A little while later, he asked me again, and I refused again,” Sakelaris said. “Then it just struck me... after five years on the bench, I had seen so many people come in who couldn’t

afford a lawyer and had to represent themselves while adhering to the same courtroom rules that we [lawyers] learned in school. I went back to him [McDermott] and told him I was in.” After working on policies, procedures, and operative guidelines and visiting many other law clinics to “see how it’s done,” Sakelaris vowed to make Hammond’s clinic “the best of the best.”

And she’s been sitting at the top ever since. The City of Hammond Legal Aid Clinic, in addition to being a 2005 finalist for the U.S. Conference of Mayors’ City Livability Awards Program, has received local, state, and national recognition as the first municipally-run legal aid clinic in the country.



**... an eclectic
journey that
led her to
this station
in life.**

“We just want to give the citizens of Hammond something they can be proud of,” Sakelaris said. “So many people come in here and they feel hurt and abused by the system. This whole

operation is about community. We can help make this community better if we can take one person and uplift him.

“People always say ‘you get what you pay for,’ but we’re just trying to give a quality service.” As the first of its

kind in the nation, the clinic is able to give quality service, but along with that service comes a great responsibility. In its two years, the clinic staff has handled a number of cases, mostly dealing with custodial parents, domestic violence, abuse of the elderly, hospice care, and last will and power of attorney instances.

Not everyone who approaches the clinic comes with a legal problem, however, and the staff members then take it upon themselves to point clients in the right direction. “That’s when we become social workers and give the people information and show them where they can get help,” Sakelaris said.

In addition to being responsible for the wellbeing of the citizens of Hammond, Sakelaris also feels there is a responsibility to give back to the education of others. The clinic, in conjunction with Valparaiso University’s School of Law, has created an externship program that gives students the ability to earn real-life credit outside of the university.

“Law school is all about the books,” Sakelaris said. “I wanted to give the students something more like a partnership where they can earn credit for school but still get valuable client contact.”

For Sakelaris, it all comes back to the feeling of community and partnerships. “I believe that we all have a responsibility to give back, and doing so makes me appreciate all that I’ve been given. Some cases stay with you longer, of course, but that further makes me see how important it is to set an example,” she said. “My daughter, husband, and I buy Christmas presents for underprivileged kids, and we try to make sure that our daughter understands that not everyone has what she has. You can’t feel bad about what you do have, though; you just have to do your best to make sure that you’re consciously giving to those around you.”

SJC alumni reach out to Hurricane Katrina victims



Alumni **Justin Walters '03** and **Dave McNelis '02** demonstrated through their work with Hurricane Katrina victims that graduates of SJC continue to live its mission statement and commitment to Gospel values long after commencement ceremonies have ended.

McNelis decided he could give more than monetary donations, so he rented a 17-foot U-haul truck and accumulated donations of food, clothing, toiletries, and some basic medical supplies to fill the truck. He contacted Walters, who, although hesitant, decided to help. "I was initially worried that Baton Rouge was already too overwhelmed with support efforts for us to be very productive," Walters said. "However, I decided that Dave could use some help for this effort to work." The two, with the help of other volunteers, sorted, packed and labeled the supplies, loaded the truck, and began the long drive to Baton Rouge.

Once in Baton Rouge, the pair met up with Dale Mathews, owner of The Backpacker, a local retail store. Mathews had asked his suppliers for donations, rented a 30-foot Penske truck, and began receiving brand-new merchandise from outdoor clothing manufacturers for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The group, which included several other volunteers, then headed to some

of the larger shelters and set out what they had, allowing victims to go through the merchandise and take what they needed.

Walters found the way the community of Baton Rouge and people all across the country responded to the disaster and the vast relief efforts overwhelming and reassuring. "It was incredibly reassuring to see so many communities pooling their time, energy, and homes to offer to those displaced," Walters said. "People really do want to help ease suffering. We all sort of wake up to our interdependence when disaster strikes; it was such a relief to see so much altruism coming out through this situation. My faith in people has been rejuvenated."

While both feel that the work they did to aid those affected by the hurricane made a difference, Walters is quick to note that change occurred in the lives of all involved, not just the hurricane victims. "I think 'differences' were made in the lives of far more people than the 'victims,'" Walters said. "Differences were made in my life, and in the lives of everyone who gave even the slightest support to us in our journey. Many people currently need food, shelter, schooling (some schools in Baton Rouge are doing an additional 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. school day to carry the new load), and other public services. But many people also need to know the feeling of community and the reality that we all desperately need each other."



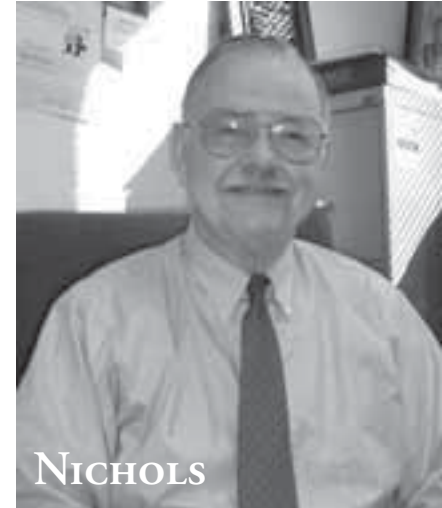
ROBB THIEL, Associate Professor of Music, would like announce that five students from the SJC Band were recently chosen to participate in the Indiana Intercollegiate All-State Band. The selected group performed in a concert held at the Indiana Convention Center on January 13, 2006, as a part of the Indiana Music Education Association State Convention. Pictured from left to right are (back row) Craig Redlin '06 (percussion), Chris Harmon '07 (horn), Liz DeMay '08 (saxophone alternate), Thiel, (front row) Clayton Henady '07 (percussion), Taylor Stortz '07 (flute/piccolo), and Mike Caristi '07 (horn).



JOHN RAHE, Assistant Professor of Communication and Theatre Arts, recently participated in the Theatre Works Conference sponsored by the Indiana Theatre Association. A competition for new playwrights and directors, those involved in the conference are asked to submit an original piece of work to be judged by a panel, and the best pieces are chosen to be performed at the conference. Rahe directed, gave his input, and worked with the writer of the best drama script, a historical piece about the life of Robert Shuman. This year marked the second time Rahe has participated in the conference as a director, having taken part as a playwright once before.

SJC professor assists in launching of national higher education project

JOHN NICHOLS, National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Teaching Professor, was recently involved in planning and conducting a meeting of executive directors of accreditation agencies with members of the State Higher Education Executive Officers in Boulder, Colorado.



The idea for the meeting grew out of two distinct projects that had been sponsored by the Association of American Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C. One project, directed by Nichols himself, dealt with determining the best practices for assessment of student learning in college and how accreditors might encourage productive use of such practices. The other project focused on the difficulties state officials encounter in overseeing the transfer of academic credit from one institution to another within a state.

Before long, it became clear that the two original projects had something to contribute to one another, and the Boulder meeting was the initial experiment to test this idea. The two groups did, indeed, discover that their agendas, initiatives, problems, and successes not only related to one another, but also led to abundant possibilities for collaboration.

The follow-up to this meeting and the planning and organization of future collaborations between states and accreditors are in the hands of the Association of American Colleges and Universities. Since all participants in the Boulder meeting desire to see a lot of follow-up, there is very little risk that this event will have no impact on the future of American higher education.

Springfield, Ohio trio



Seniors Joe Talley, Olivia Klosterman, and Marcus Murphy

have known each other for what seems like their whole lives. After spending four years together at Springfield Catholic Central High School in Springfield, Ohio, and competing in soccer matches since junior high, the trio now finds themselves at the same college in Rensselaer, Indiana.

“Terry Foley [of the SJC class of 1969] really put the idea of SJC in our heads,” said Talley. “He was a big supporter of Catholic Central sports, so we’ve known him for a long time. Our senior year, he approached us about SJC. He told us about the College’s athletic program and Catholic affiliation and even offered to accompany us on a visit to Rensselaer.”

After sharing their childhoods on the playgrounds, Klosterman, Murphy, and Talley shared their insights in the

classrooms and their talents on the playing field, and continue to do so in college. Although the three are pursuing different majors and no longer share the same day-to-day class schedules, their career ambitions are matched by their hard work in and out of the classroom.

As a Biology major with a keen interest in forensic entomology, SJC has given Klosterman more in the way of pre-graduate school experience than she ever could have hoped. Thanks to the hands-on classroom experience at SJC, Klosterman has been able to assist Dr. Neal Haskell, Associate Professor of Biology, with an autopsy, as well as help with research in several of his national-profile entomology cases. She’s even been given the opportunity to travel to Australia this summer to lend a hand with some case work.

At SJC, Klosterman was able to take what formerly was a childhood

interest and turn it into something more than just a hobby: a career.

[They’ve] shared their insights in the classrooms and their talents on the playing field, and continue to do so in college.

scores big at SJC

"I was always into getting dirty and playing with bugs when I was a kid. I guess I was a bit of a tomboy," she said. Since childhood, she's also been heavily involved with athletics, and has proven herself a standout athlete in both collegiate soccer and softball.

"Even now, my soccer coach will put me on the other side of the field if there's a puddle in my path," she said. "He knows that I'll just jump in it." SJC helped Klosterman turn a curiosity for insects and a willingness to get her hands dirty into a potential career in forensic entomology.

For Murphy, it's been more of a varied path to finding where he wants to end up. From teaching overseas to spearheading resume workshops, he's been given many different opportunities in a variety of liberal arts realms. It was through a cross-country excursion, however, that Murphy realized his potential for teaching. "I've done some missionary work in the past, and a few summers ago I taught English as a Second Language in Yakima, Washington, on an Indian reservation," he said. "When I came back, I started teaching CCD at St. Augustine School [Rensselaer], and that really convinced me that teaching is the right profession for me."

Talley's true passion in life waits for him on the soccer field. "I've always wanted to be a professional soccer player, but I'm also realistic and prepared. If soccer doesn't pan out, I'd love to get into marketing, management, and promotions," he said. Through his dedication to his Business

"Joe and I have been playing soccer against each other since we were twelve years old. I guess you could say we were friendly rivals."

Administration major and the support of his advisor **Teresa Massoels '89**, Associate Professor of Marketing and Management, Talley secured a summer internship in the Office of Institutional Advancement and Marketing at SJC. "Last summer, I was given the task of expanding an on-line store for the College. I was the 'on-line store manager' for the entire summer, and I loved it," he said. "I had great guidance from the staff who helped me learn things about the work-place that I wouldn't have learned otherwise in the classroom."

Although the trio has chosen three different paths for their futures, they continue to share the playing field. As members of SJC's soccer teams, they are allowed to rejuvenate a comfortable method of bonding

that they've known all their lives.

"Joe and I have been playing soccer against each other since we were twelve years old," Murphy said. "I guess you could say we were friendly rivals. He lived on one side of town and I lived on the other, and we always kept track of each other's records, wondering who'd come out on top." Even as "friendly rivals," the two shared a common dream: to make it to the Ohio High School State Soccer Championship. "We used to dream about it in eighth grade. We'd play a game and pretend like we were the pros, playing on their field" Murphy said.

It wasn't until the pair entered high school that they were able to share the field in camaraderie rather than competition, and saw their childhood dream realized. As co-captains of their high school team their senior years, they dominated every time. "We made it to the state championship that year," Talley remembered. "We got to play at Columbus Crew Stadium and we won the game in the last thirty seconds." Murphy added, "We got huge championship rings and medals like the pros."

These three student-athletes have a history that connects them to one another. Through childhood, adolescence, and now adulthood, the trio's dedication to one another and their futures have never wavered, and college has only strengthened an already rock-solid bond. "I think coming to SJC was the best decision any of us has ever made," Talley began. "We've grown up a lot since we first met, but we kind of found a way to reinvent ourselves in college. And it was great because we got to keep pieces of our pasts right next to us all the time."



Khao Lak, Thailand:

Getting to the HEART
of the matter



Equatorial Scale 1:235,000,000

When Assistant Professor of Social Work Toni Halgas told people she would be doing Tsunami relief work in Thailand in the summer of 2005, she was met with skepticism. “There were so many rumors flying about that there was no more work to be done there,” she said. “That couldn’t have been further from the truth. There was work everywhere.”

Halgas saw her overseas calling in helping the people who were there to help others: the relief workers. When she arrived in Khao Lak, Thailand (the area most devastated by the December 26, 2004, Tsunami), in June, she found herself the only clinical therapist in the disaster area’s only hospitality and counseling center for tsunami relief workers and survivors, known as The Well. “The Well was pretty much brand new when I got there. It had been established for about a month, and I was the first full-time therapist it had seen,” she said.

“Thailand desperately needed a place like The Well,” she continued. “So many ordinary people – kind-hearted and generous people – went to extreme measures to be there to help. Many of them simply weren’t prepared for the pain and devastation they found.” Halgas recalled many international volunteers who had traveled to the tsunami-affected area of their own accord by selling their cars and other major assets or cashing in their life savings or 401K plans. “Those who went to such extreme efforts to come over by themselves instead of with an agency like the Red Cross or Habitat for Humanity were on their own,” she said. “Agencies tend to monitor the emotional and physical health and well-being of their volunteers – they set limits on activities and exposure to the devastation. Independents, the people who came over on their own, didn’t have anyone to look out for them. Often they were allowed to work beyond what was healthy or wise. They became overwhelmed, many with acute stress disorders. But they kept on going until they could not function and needed a safe place. That’s where The Well came in.”

The Well mostly helped individuals who had heard of the center through word of mouth, flyers, or networking through disaster sites. “My favorite people to talk to were the independents. They were all so full of life and hope when they arrived, then they were hit with the shock and sadness of it all. It was a privilege having the opportunity to help restore their vitality and perspective,” Halgas said. “Most of those

people wouldn’t have had any opportunity to get help if not for The Well.” The center typically saw anywhere from 30-120 individuals on a daily basis, offering an air-conditioned space, nourishment, laughter, cool water, and a listening ear. Additionally, the staff provided debriefing experiences for teams and individuals as well as training programs for groups wishing to work with traumatized children.

The doors to The Well weren’t exclusively held open for only relief workers, though: the center also saw its share of “farang” (Thai for “foreign”) and Thai Tsunami survivors. Survivors of the Tsunami were evacuated within three days, preventing many of them from searching for missing family members and loved ones. The majority of survivors who made their way to The Well came back to Thailand to find closure or say final goodbyes to those they lost. On occasion, survivors would ask staff members to walk through the

debris with them and try to make sense of the wreckage. “On a walk-through with a German man, I brought tissues along in case he might need one. *He* was fine, and *I* was the one wiping at tears as he took us from the beach where he had seen his sister for the last time, to the tree he had clung to during the waves, and finally to the hospital where he told us about the young German child he and his girlfriend had found and cared for until they delivered him to his grandfather in Germany,”

Halgas remembered.

Taking hold of every opportunity available to her, Halgas chose to make her seven weeks in Thailand about more than counseling and therapy. She worked closely with English-speaking Thai volunteers and even taught one local Thai coffee shop owner how to bake “American sweets” in order to revive her struggling business. “The Well is a part of the community, existing to encourage and build people up. Our focus is beyond meeting psychological and emotional needs – we provide for whatever needs our clients have. We provide comfort,” she said. “I was even ‘adopted’ by several young American volunteers who still refer to me as ‘Aunt Toni.’”

“Mainly, it was just a lot of fun for me to have the opportunity to meet such wonderful people. They taught me things about myself that I wouldn’t have learned anywhere else,” she continued. “Through letters and e-mails, I still keep in touch with many of the friends I made overseas. Nothing makes me smile quite like seeing the words ‘Dear Aunt Toni’ at the top of the page.”





Haskell's Advanced Forensics class serves up evening of murder mystery

Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Neal Haskell's Advanced Forensics Class, which focuses on crime scenes and evidence recovery, wrote a murder mystery entitled "Murder by Design" that was presented for sold-out crowds in mid-November. The event was held at the Holden Arboretum, near Cleveland, Ohio.

Sixteen students traveled to the Arboretum and watched their work in action after writing the script scenarios in teams using general forensic science disciplines. The class began work on the project on the first day of the fall semester. "We had lectures from experts from most of these different concentrations of forensic science. We also had lab time where we actually went out and did examinations on hairs and fibers, dug up bones, and collected insects," said junior Biology-Chemistry major Helene Buck. "We used some of the information from the lecturers to make up our handouts and posters and tried to teach the 'investigators' how to analyze the evidence and a little bit about each different area of forensic science."



Students from the entomology team display their information boards at the Holden Arboretum. From back to front: Melissa Janowitsch '06, Olivia Klosterman '06, Bob Block '07, and Annie Stupic '06.

After the reception and an identification of the "deceased," the audience members used the elements of evidence such as entomology and anthropology to determine the time of death. Next, the "investigators" wandered through the mansion, which included

hidden passageways and secret panels, interviewing the "suspects," such as a butler, gardener, maid, and cook, and examined their alibis.

The audience participants then opened a second set of evidence that illuminated the potential murderers by means of hair, fibers, and botany, using the very specific vegetation growth at the Arboretum in the precise area of the murder site.

Such events are not the only unique opportunity forensics students are offered at SJC, however. Haskell's students are the only undergraduates in the world who accompany him to murder scenes, thanks to the cooperation of coroners and the Indiana and Illinois State Police Departments. The students gather and study evidence with Haskell and participate in mock court battles in the Jasper County Courthouse in Rensselaer. Haskell, whose students recover skeletal remains and participate in ballistics classes on his 800-acre farm, said, "These activities are extremely beneficial for getting into graduate school or jobs with hands-on field work."

Dr. Michael Evans '67 of AIT Laboratories dedicates SJC renovated science laboratories

Thanks in part to a grant from Lilly Endowment, Saint Joseph's College was recently able to renovate the Biology and Chemistry laboratories and classrooms in the Arts and Science Building. American Institute of Toxicology, Inc. (AIT Laboratories) President and Chief Executive Officer **Dr. Michael Evans '67** dedicated the facilities to kickoff the official ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"These renovations reflect the sincerity of each faculty member's interest in seeing their students learn and grow," Evans said, "and I'm happy to see that the relationships between professors and their students are just as strong as they were when I was a student."

Dr. Robert Brodman, Professor of Biology, is pleased with the new working environment. "The new labs and classrooms are more comfortable, which makes it easier for us to do what we need to do," he said.

"We have a brand new research room with new equipment and incubators," he continued. "Dr. Haskell (Associate Professor of Biology) and I will be able to use the incubators to more easily study tadpoles and maggots with our classes, and Dr. Wistrom (Associate Professor of Chemistry) will be getting new microbiology equipment and will use the research room to study DNA with her students."

Evans, who was a Biology-Chemistry major at Saint Joseph's, is excited to see the renovated labs being put to use. "The laboratory environment is where you truly learn the sciences, where you explore hypotheses and make discoveries. These renovations will provide

"These renovations reflect the sincerity of each faculty member's interest in seeing their students learn and grow,"
— *Dr. Michael Evans '67*

inspiration to students building careers in this field," he said.

"I'm always impressed with the strong desire of the Saint Joseph's faculty to see their students succeed. These lab renovations weren't dictated by an architect, but actually were developed and designed by the science faculty. Their level of dedication is just one of the many reasons SJC graduates from all majors are so prepared for life after college," Evans concluded.



Dr. Michael Evans '67, President and Chief Executive Officer of AIT Laboratories, dedicated SJC's new science laboratories. Left to right: Dr. David Chattin, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Robert Pfaff, Professor of Chemistry and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs; Evans; **Rev. Dr. William Stang, C.P.P.S. '72**, Professor of Biology; Dr. Robert Brodman, Professor of Biology; Dr. Neal Haskell, Associate Professor of Biology; Dr. Jennifer Coy, Assistant Professor of Physics; and Dr. Ernest R. Mills III, President.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY returns to North Carolina for Thanksgiving break

This November, ten Saint Joseph's College Habitat for Humanity members gave up five days of their Thanksgiving Break to assist in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, for the seventh year in a row. The students were accompanied by Assistant Professor of Communication and SJC Habitat faculty advisor Fred Berger. The Rocky Mount Area Habitat for Humanity homes suffered severe flood damage due to several hurricanes that dumped 14 inches of rain on the area in 1999. The hurricane destruction motivated the group's first visit to Rocky Mount in 1999, and they have returned every year since.

Braving chilly weather, rain, and even poison ivy, the group cleared trees and brush to make way for the new structures they would build. While there, though, the Habitat members learned more than how to build a house. "I learned that we are more respected as a generation," said sophomore History major Maggie Broderick, who has been involved with Habitat since high school. "It was interesting to see another generation appreciate us and not just see us as lazy college students, because we're not. We worked very hard."

Students also distributed "goody baskets" created by a local church's vacation bible school to eight Habitat homeowners. Senior Political Science major Janet D. Hertz, president of SJC's Habitat chapter, and senior Elementary Education major Amanda Bartz, treasurer, have journeyed to Rocky Mount every year since 2002. The pair delivered their basket filled with goodies to a family living in the first house they worked on four years ago.

"Every year we go back to the same affiliate in Rocky Mount because they made us feel at home," said Berger, who has been involved in SJC's Habitat since 1996 and advisor since 1998. "Students who went the first, second, and third years looked at it as doing good





“It was interesting to see another generation appreciate us and not just see us as lazy college students, because we’re not. We worked very hard.”

work and got a better sense of what they have to be thankful for. For them, coming back to Rocky Mount is almost like visiting family.”

In addition to the Habitat work, the group also reached out to the impoverished community around their living quarters, playing football with the children and even providing dinners for one family. Hertz, who plans to join the national service organization AmeriCorps after graduating this year, said, “Right across the street the first day, I noticed some kids who needed assistance. There were 15 people in one house, so we

brought them spaghetti one night, and the next night I talked to the group and we took up a collection and bought them pizza.”

The students delivered the six large pizzas to the family and Berger said, “It kind of showed me that the trip wasn’t just about picking up a hammer and building a house or shed, but that SJC students really care about God’s people and these trips touch lives.”

“You’re not just touching the house you actually build,” said Hertz. “You’re touching the whole community and showing them that you do care about them.”

Football team concludes record-breaking season

The Saint Joseph's College football team put the finishing touches on a season in which several single-game, single-season, and career records were surpassed.

The Pumas' record of 7-4 equaled that of last season's team, and the 14 wins over the past two years marked the highest total since the 1979 and 1980 teams won 14 games. SJC also posted back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1986 and 1987. The Pumas set a single-season team record for fumble return touchdowns (4).

Leading the ravage of the record books was sophomore quarterback Anthony Lindsey, who established new single-season records for completed passes (259), passing yards (2,860), total offense yards (2,849), and completion percentage (64.0). He is SJC's career leader in games of 200 or more passing yards (14) and games of 300 or more passing yards (4), and is the current leader in career completion percentage (60.2). He also established new single-game records for completions (37) and attempts (61) against the University of Indianapolis on October 29, 2005, when he threw for a career-high 366 yards.

Lindsey's most popular target over the past two years has been sophomore wide receiver Dan Paulsen, who caught his SJC career record-breaking 16th touchdown pass against Indianapolis. Freshman tight end Kalif Sheppard, meanwhile, tied a single-game record with three TD receptions in the season finale at Austin Peay State University. He now shares the record with Paulsen and **Russell Dennick '85**.

Tying another school record was junior defensive tackle LaVarr Brown, who totaled three quarterback sacks in the Austin Peay game. A new single-season record for punt return yards (319) was established by sophomore receiver Grant Dean.

Quarterback Anthony Lindsey '08 has broken nine SJC passing records in just two seasons.



Joey Cuff '07 goes for the point at home against Drury University.



Men's basketball enjoying unprecedented success in national spotlight

The Saint Joseph's College men's basketball team is well on its way to posting the most successful season in the history of the program under fourth-year head coach Linc Darnier.

The Pumas opened the season by winning their first 12 games, which is the best start in 90 seasons of men's basketball at SJC. At press time, the Pumas' record stood at 16-1, which guarantees their third straight winning season and marks the fourth consecutive year that they have improved their record from the previous campaign.

SJC broke into the NCAA Division II national rankings the second week of the season, reaching as high as No. 3 on one occasion and No. 4 on several. The highest the Pumas had been ranked prior to this season was No. 18, which happened in the 2001-02 preseason poll.

SJC has been ranked among the Division II national leaders all season



DARNER

long in scoring average, topping the 100-point mark on three occasions, including a season-high 110 points in a win at Ashland University on Nov. 19.

The Pumas have had two players named Great Lakes Valley Conference

Player of the Week in senior forwards Sullivan Sykes and Derek Fey. Sykes earned the distinction for the week of Dec. 19, and Fey followed by winning the award the very next week. Fey has led the GLVC in rebounds for most of the season, while Sykes has been among the league leaders in scoring.

The team has the chance to eclipse the SJC records for total wins (22), home wins (14), away wins (10), and average margin of victory (8.9 points per game).

The regular season concludes Feb. 25, when the Pumas host Kentucky Wesleyan College for Senior Day. The GLVC Tournament will be held Mar. 2-5 at Roberts Stadium in Evansville, Ind., and the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional Tournament will be held Mar. 11-14 at a site to be determined. The 2006 Division II Elite Eight Tournament will be held in Springfield, Mass., Mar. 22-25.



Men's basketball picks up historic exhibition win

The SJC men's basketball team won its third and final exhibition game against Division I competition on November 9, 2005, defeating the University of Illinois-Chicago, 74-73, at the UIC Pavilion. The Pumas became the first Great Lakes Valley Conference team to win such a game since the practice of playing such games went league-wide last season, a span of 45 games.

SJC's other exhibition games resulted in losses to Indiana University (93-65) and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (73-66).

The SJC women's team opened the season with a pair of exhibition games as well, losing to Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (71-55) and Valparaiso University (84-52).

Sullivan Sykes '07 was the Pumas' leading scorer in their three Division I exhibition games.

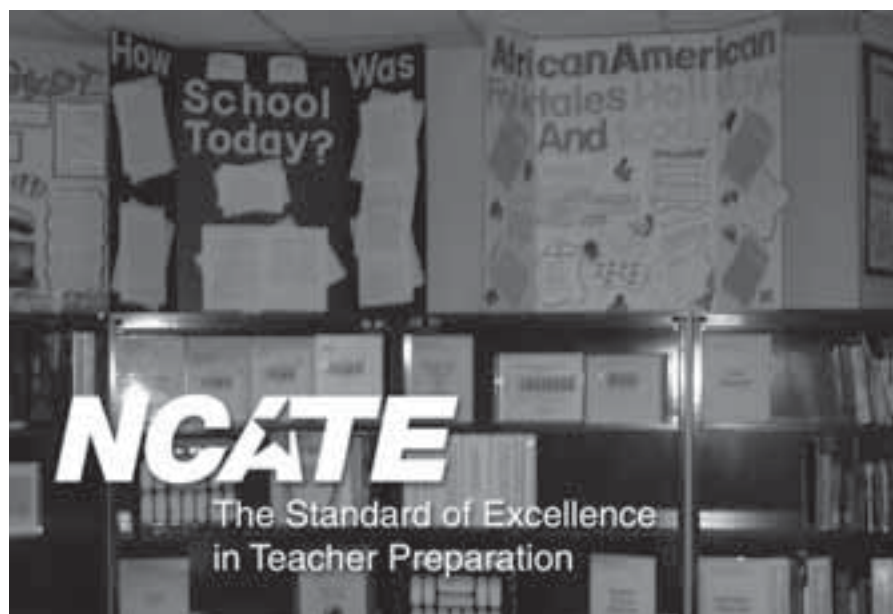
SJC Education Department receives highest rating achievable

Saint Joseph's College recently hosted the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). An individual, departmental accreditation agency that visits qualifying institutions on a nine-year basis, NCATE awarded SJC with an "unconditional" accreditation, the highest rating an institution can achieve.

"Our visit with NCATE was very successful," said Education Department Chair Dr. Jennifer Barce, "and we met all six of the standards." The rating criteria employed by NCATE are candidate's knowledge, skills, and dispositions; assessment system and unit evaluation; field experiences and clinical practice; diversity; faculty qualifications, performance, and development; and unit governance and resources. "Last year, only one-third of the visited schools were given an 'unconditional' accreditation," Barce said.

NCATE has moved to a performance- and standards-based system since their last visit. In order to meet the new standards and correct the weaknesses pointed out during the 1999 NCATE visit, the Education Department implemented a new program consisting of more hands-on learning, more classroom experience, and more evaluations. "The first set of graduates from our 'new program' graduated in 2005, and we're already getting feedback from them about their experiences in the program, allowing us to refine and expand even more," she said.

While on campus, the representa-



Each institution visited by NCATE is required to prepare an exhibit room making all pertinent information easily accessible to the representatives. The 2005 NCATE representatives were so impressed with SJC's exhibit room that they recommended other schools visit it for tips on how to create their own.

tives from NCATE sat in on class discussions, interviewed students and faculty, and enjoyed meals and downtime with students. "They were enchanted by the Core Program," Barce began, "and were impressed that we offered such a comprehensive liberal arts program to our future teachers. They also commended our faculty involvement and recognized the benefits of our dual-action system, such as the experience students gain from having both their Education professors and subject-concentration professors study their portfolios."

Aside from being impressed with SJC's Education Department as a whole, the representatives from NCATE were also struck by the exhibit room the Education faculty created for their use. "One requirement of NCATE visits is to set up an exhibit room, making all of our files and other information easily accessible," Barce explained. Included in the exhibit were various forms of aggregated data, including field experience ratings, alumni program ratings, student course evaluations, student work samples, materials and requirements

dealing with the Core Program, and Education course requirements. "We wanted to showcase how unique SJC is and really illustrate how we believe that all forms of learning are interrelated," Barce said. The Education Department's hard work paid off, as the NCATE representatives were so impressed that they recommended other schools to visit SJC's exhibit room for tips on how to create their own. Purdue University North Central and Hanover College, both preparing for their first visits from NCATE, have toured SJC's exhibit room.

Barce believes the NCATE visit was a two-fold benefit, advantageous both to Education professors and Education students. "It was helpful for the professors to sit down and analyze the effectiveness of our new program and determine exactly how it fits in with the rest of SJC," Barce said. "It was great that the students got to see, first-hand, that the learning process never stops and a program (as well as individuals) never stops growing. We can always improve ourselves, and that's something that every potential teacher needs to recognize."

Political science students visit Boston to “see” JFK

Recently, Associate Professor of Political Science Dr. Peter Watkins and several members of his Political Science Seminar Course on the presidency of John F. Kennedy made the long trip to Boston, Massachusetts, to walk where Kennedy walked. For Watkins, the trip was an opportunity for his students to get to know the man behind the nation’s 35th President.

“Visiting places like the Kennedy Library Museum and seeing items like the notepad on which Kennedy took notes concerning the Cuban Missile Crisis really adds a third dimension to our study of Kennedy’s presidency,” Watkins said. “While there is obviously great value in spending time in the classroom reading about events such as the election of 1960 and Kennedy’s time in office, our times in the classroom only give a two-dimensional portrait of our subject. When we walk where Kennedy walked and when we are able to see up-close artifacts from his private and public life, we are able to gain a deeper understanding of who he was as a person.”

Watkins, junior Andrew Jendraszak, and seniors Kara Marxer, Janet Hertz, Jean Monfort, and Joseph Dovidio traveled around the city visiting key historical places such as the JFK Library Museum, Freedom Trail, Faneuil Hall, and Granary Burial Grounds. Faneuil Hall, where Samuel Adams and his fellow patriots planned revolutionary activity, is a site where many presidents, including Kennedy, have delivered speeches. The Granary Burial Grounds house the graves of Paul Revere, John Hancock, Samuel Adams, the parents of Benjamin Franklin, the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and the mass grave of the victims of the Boston Massacre, making it a major landmark of national history. Before leaving for Indiana, they had the opportunity to visit downtown Boston, taking a trip to the State House and the site of the Boston Massacre.



(Left to right) Watkins, Marxer, Dovidio, and Hertz pose before the podium at the State House in Boston.

Actually visiting places integral to Kennedy’s life and presidency, as well as American history overall, helped the students gain a better understanding of the man they were studying. “Seeing places like the Kennedy Library Museum and personal items belonging to Kennedy really lent a sense of physicality to the ideas we have been learning in class,” Marxer explained. “It makes what you’re learning more than ideas in a textbook; you really get the chance to experience Kennedy as a person more than just a president. We had the opportunity to stand behind the same podium as Kennedy did when he accepted the position of President on January 9, 1961. It was amazing to know I was standing where he stood.”

Although Watkins is leery of pulling students out of class for too many days, he feels like out-of-class excursions such as these really help drive home lessons he teaches in the classroom. “The trip definitely accomplished my goals of enabling my students to get a better understanding of the man whose presidency they were studying, and I really feel they learned a lot from their time in Boston.”

Watkins felt the trip was a success, and hopes to make a similar trip to Boston when he offers the class again. However, next time he would like to begin the trip at Kennedy’s birthplace and end with a trip to Washington, D.C. so the students can visit Arlington Cemetery and see Kennedy’s grave. “I wish I could have ended the trip on that note,” Watkins said. “It’s a very moving experience to see someone’s grave, and would have been a powerful way to bring the experience to a close.”

CLASS NOTES

John L. Madden '64 sat as a Municipal Court judge for many years immediately before serving as a Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey, which we inadvertently omitted from Class Notes in the Fall 2005 issue.

James Calabrese '84 has been selected to teach through UNITE, a program of the Inner City Teaching Corps in Chicago, IL. Urban Impact Through Education (UNITE) is an Alternative Teaching Certification Program dedicated to serving children in under-resourced schools and communities. James is pursuing an Illinois teaching certificate and a Master of Science in Education from Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy. He currently teaches sixth grade at Murphy Elementary School.

Kris Rowden '89 and his wife **Holly (Canalia) '95** have recently repatriated from a three-year assignment in China with the Dupont Company. Kris is now working with the Solae Company (a subsidiary of Dupont) in Remington, IN. He is a Unit Manager making Soy Protein Concentrate. Kris and Holly live in Lafayette, IN.

Daniel E. Doctor '98 graduated from Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, MI, on April 30, 2005, with a Master of Divinity (cum laude) and a Master of Arts in Theology (summa cum laude). He is currently completing a parish internship at St. Monica Parish in Kalamazoo, MI, and hopes to be ordained to the diaconate and priesthood within the next year.

Matthew Jenks '98 has recently taken a position with Scynexis, Inc. in Triangle Park, NC. He is a research associate focusing on synthetic methods of drug discovery.

Krystal (Labhart) Kniola '99 passed her fourth and final section of the Certified Public Accounting exam in May 2005 after passing 3 sections in November 2003.

ENGAGEMENTS

Andrea M. Anderson '97 to Aaron C. Page.

Amy Van Schepen '01 to Timothy Sietsma. A September 2006 wedding is planned.

Mandy Meyers '02 to Richard Velligan. A September 3, 2006, wedding is planned. Bridesmaids will be **Sara (Post) Rabensteine '02**, **Blaire Henley '02**, and **Julianne Adams '03**.

Lisa Block '03 to Joseph Sitarz. A September 2, 2006, wedding is planned.

Amber N. Mattocks '04 to Aaron Parrish. A December 17, 2005, wedding is planned.

Erin C. Kardash '05 to Allen Cochran. A December 31, 2005, wedding is planned.

MARRIAGES

Jannine Gamache '80 to William Rains, 8/6/05.

Susie M. Butz '93 to Dr. Glen Flaningham, 9/24/05.

Eric Feinendegen '95 to Maggie VanBergen, 9/24/05.

Melissa Messman '95 to Brian Tyler, 12/18/05.

Rebecca Fischer '99 to Daniel Wagner, 8/28/04.

Rachel Maxson '99 to Brian Deno, 7/23/05.

Jamie K. Riberto '99 to Jeff Makuch, 10/15/05.

Christina M. Staffan '00 to Kevin Keith, 10/7/05.

Amy Augustyn '01 to Ron Lindahl, 10/8/05.

Holly Copeland '02 to Adam Reine, 6/11/05.

Jennifer L. Bossung '03 to Hal Norris, 10/8/05.

Kristine M. Dougherty '03 to Nicholas Schweiss, 8/14/04.

Caroline D. Monforton '03 to **David Norton '03**, 10/30/04.

Samantha M. Ma'Ayteh '04 to Daniel Villa, 8/19/05.

Lauren Woosley '04 to Joe Young, 9/17/05.

Lisa L. Grilliot '05 to Scott Brooks, 7/30/05.

BIRTHS

Trey James Mueller to **John '88** and Julie **Mueller**, 9/20/05. Trey joins big sister Allison (3 1/2) and big brother Ryan (21 months).

William Jennings Hanlon to **Sean '89** and Cosima **Hanlon**, 7/10/05.

Haley Elizabeth Rowden to **Kris '89** and **Holly (Canalia) Rowden '95**, 9/20/05.

Kerrington Baldwin to **Herbert '92** and Joya **Baldwin, Jr.**, 7/18/05. She joins big sister Londyn (3).

Jacqueline Treacy Hayes to **Bill '93** and **Patty (Glennon) Hayes '93**, 4/7/05. She joins big brothers Liam (5) and Brian (4).

Rose Elizabeth Irons to **Chris '95** and **Cheri (Bowsher) Irons '95**, 2/7/05. Rose joins big sister Anna (3).

Catherine Elizabeth Koschnick to **Chris '95** and **Emily (Karol) Koschnick '97**, 3/22/05.

Margaret Elaine DiPaolo to **Brian '97** and Samantha DiPaolo, 10/31/05. Maggie joins big sisters Mary Cate (6) and Sophie (1) and big brother Dominic (5).

Silvia Maria Dix to **Klaudia Janek '97** and Ryan Dix, 3/7/05.

Aidan Mohr to **Michael '97** and **Elizabeth (Dillon) Mohr '99**, 6/19/05.

Grace Christine Healey to Chad and **Christine (Bledsoe) Healey '98**, 9/15/05. Grace joins big sister Alexis (3).

Zakary Keith Werling to Keith and **Jill (Peterson) Werling '98**, 8/01/05.

Caiden Steven White to **Jeremy '98** and Carri **White**, 5/11/05.

Alina Renee Alford to Brad and **Angela (Moster) Alford '99**, 9/1/05.

Brady Dean and Keeley Faith Deniston to Rich and **Jennifer (Rausch) Deniston '99**, 8/31/05.

Joshua Michael Kniola to Michael and **Krystal (Labhart) Kniola '99**, 8/6/05.

Lillian Margaret Schoch to **Eric '00** and Erin **Schoch**, 3/22/05.

Julian Solis to Horacio and **Sara (Reasoner) Solis '00**, 10/1/05.

Allen James Evans to **Justin '01** and **Nancy (Giovingo) Evans '01**, 7/16/05.

Lucas Blair Sayler to Kenton '07 and **Kathryn (Mitchell) Sayler '03**, 9/18/05. He joins big brother Isaac (7) and big sister Zoeanne (4).

Taniya Marie Smith to **Hodges Smith '03** and Chiquita Young, 11/6/05.

Haley Elizabeth Graf to Scott and **Beth (Morris) Graf '04**, 10/15/05.

DEATHS

Herman J. Hoying '34, 11/10/05, SJC Academy.

Charles F. Scheidler '34, 8/23/05.

John D. Kreutzer '35, 9/15/05.

Joseph L. Raterman '38, 4/28/04.

Burch Daniel Merritt, M.D. '40, 4/7/05, SJC Academy.

Richard A. Adent '44, 1/30/04, SJC Academy.

Rev. Edmund Weigel, C.P.P.S. '53, 11/4/05.

Donald L. Prullage, Ph.D. '56, 4/4/05.

B. William Andorfer '58, 11/1/05.

Edward P. McGee '61, 6/05.

Louis E. Chamberlin '65, 8/12/05.

Thomas F. Brazzill '72, 10/5/05.

Donald M. Kremp '73, 10/29/05.



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*Toni Halgas, Assistant
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Story on page 17.



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